

Welcome... Thank You for Joining Us

We will begin at 6:00PM

- All participants' lines are automatically muted
- You will NOT hear any sound until the presentation begins

PLEASE KEEP YOUR PHONE LINES & COMPUTERS MUTED

Please submit any questions in the chat box

- We will go through all questions at the end of the presentation
- We will open the phone lines for questions as well

This Presentation is being RECORDED



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Division of Developmental Disabilities

COVID-19

DDD's Top priority is the health and safety of our members, their families, and the professionals in our program that support them
The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is:

- Working with ADHS and CDC guidelines to ensure appropriate measures are in place to allow for the continuation of necessary services
 - Monitoring service delivery and availability to ensure service continuation
 - Providing regular updates on the DDD COVID-19 Website:
https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions
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Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March Activities

- **March 11:** DDD reminded all provider agencies to review and update their Pandemic Plans
- **March 12:** DDD established email address (DDDQMUdocs@azdes.gov) for vendors to notify DDD of any changes in service delivery for a specific members or at a specific service location
- **March 16:** DDD Support Coordinators began to conduct 90-day planning meetings through video conferencing or telephone calls.
- **March 17:** DDD suspended all on-site monitoring visits with the exception of serious health & safety threats which will be investigated in person.

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March Activities

- **March 17-26:** DDD allowed the use of telehealth for Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Early Childhood Autism Services and Habilitation, Music.
- **March 25 and 26:** DDD allowed Day Treatment services to be provided at the member's home or in a developmental home and allowed billing for 1:1 or 1:2 day treatment ratios without prior approval.
 - DDD has not issued direction for Day Treatment Programs to suspend services.
- **March 29 (Updated 4/3, 4/10 and 4/14):** DDD Posted a specific COVID-19 Guidance for Congregate Settings and Non-Healthcare Settings on the DDD COVID-19 webpage: bit.ly/DDDProviderGuidance
 - As of April 14: DDD established weekly meetings with Group Home and Developmental Home vendors to provide technical assistance and information and to gather feedback

Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

Governor Ducey issued an Executive Order
Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected
effective: **March 31, 2020 at 5 p.m.**

- Essential Businesses will remain open.
- DES has been identified as an agency that provides essential services.
- DDD and Provider Staff will continue working. Services will continue under the executive order.

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

April 2: AHCCCS has expanded the current benefit limitation for Respite hours from 600 to 720 hours per benefit year effective, 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2020.

You can call your Support Coordinator at any time if your needs have changed

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

April 8 (updated 4/10 and 4/14): Parents temporarily becoming direct care workers during the COVID-19 emergency

- Guidance posted: https://bit.ly/DCW_English and https://bit.ly/DCW_Spanish
- Permits any family member (parent, step-parent, legally responsible person) over the age of 18 to be a paid direct care worker for a minor
- Support Coordinators are contacting families to make sure they have the services they need
- Contact your Support Coordinator if your needs have changed
- Must meet the qualifications to be a direct care worker
- Updates included clarification that the DDD assessment for services has not changed and that required background checks applies to parents as providers

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

April 10: AHCCCS granted permission to use telehealth to provide employment and other habilitation services. DDD posted guidance (https://bit.ly/Habilitation_Guide) to implement telehealth for these services.

- Billing guidance is posted on the DDD FAQ page. https://bit.ly/DDD_COVIDFAQ
- Based on assessment of the members' needs and outcomes telehealth may be appropriate for habilitation:
 - To support employment
 - Be provided in a member's home
 - To support day programs

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

Approval was granted from CMS to AHCCCS to temporarily expand settings where services may be provided.

- DDD has preliminary guidance for alternative settings in the COVID-19 QVA Guidance for Congregate Care Settings document:

<https://bit.ly/DDDProviderGuidance>

DDD will be updating this document and providing billing clarifications.

- As a reminder service delivery changes must be reported to:
DDDQMUDocs@azdes.gov
- DDD is coordinating with ADHS and local counties to establish further guidance

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

AHCCCS has approved a temporary provision of Home Delivered Meals for DDD members who are Long Term Care eligible.

- The Division is finalizing guidance on how this service will be implemented
 - This service will be available for the DDD member only, and is currently limited to one meal per day
 - The Division will continue to assist members in obtaining food boxes when needed
- Please watch the FAQs posted on the Division's COVID-19 Actions Page for information on this temporary service

Updates on Training

Prevention and Support: DDD has temporarily adjusted the expectations for Prevention and Support training.

- New employee certification requirements in Prevention and Support will be temporarily suspended unless the employee is assigned to a member:
 - With a Behavior Treatment Plans (in any setting),
 - With a Functional Behavioral Assessments, and/or
 - Who is receiving behavioral health treatment for a challenging behavior that may require physical intervention.
- DDD posted a list of agencies/individuals who are still providing this training under Resources on the DDD COVID-19 web page: https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions
- A 90-day extension has been granted for employees whose Prevention and Support certifications have or will soon expire.

Updates on Training

Article 9: DDD has authorized webinar style training with a live instructor

- DDD posted a list of agencies/individuals who are still providing this training under Resources on the DDD COVID-19 web page:

https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions

CPR/First Aid Training: Can be completed online through a nationally recognized provider

Direct Care Workers: The 90-day training requirement has been suspended

- Remote learning opportunities may be available

In-person evaluation must occur following the conclusion of the COVID-19 emergency

Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

Resources:

- DDD Website: <https://bit.ly/DDDMain>
- DES Website: www.des.az.gov
- ADHS Website: www.azdhs.gov
- CDC Website: www.cdc.gov
- Coronavirus Website: www.coronavirus.gov



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Questions?